GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2335
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2016
Facilities to ST Students for Studying Abroad
Usendi Shri Vikram

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the facilities being provided to the students belonging to the Scheduled Tribe category in addition to scholarship and hostel facilities to study abroad; and

(b) the number of students to whom the said facilities were provided during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise including Chhattisgarh?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI MANSUKHBHAI DHANJIBHAI VASAVA)

(a) Ministry of Tribal Affairs is implementing the "National Overseas Scheme" for ST Students under which the following facilities are provided:
I. Annual Maintenance Allowance - A annual maintenance allowance in US will be US Dollars 15,400 ($ Fifteen thousand four hundred only) for all level of courses covered under the Scheme. The annual maintenance allowance for candidates in United Kingdom will be Pound sterling 9,900 (Â£ Nine thousand nine hundred only)for all levels of courses covered under the scheme.
II. Annual Contingency Allowance - A annual Contingency allowance for books/essential apparatus/study tour/typing and binding of thesis etc. will be US Dollars 1512 ($ One thousand five hundred twelve only) for the candidates in US and for candidates in United Kingdom, it will be Pounds sterling 1100 (Â£ One thousand one hundred only)
III. Poll Tax - Actual shall be paid, wherever applicable.
IV. Visa Fees - Actual visa fees in Indian Rupees will be paid.
V. Equipment Allowance - Equipment Allowance will be allowed @ Rs.1320/- per annum
VI. Incidental Journey Expenses - Incidental journey expenses up to US Dollars 18.70 or its equivalent in Indian Rupees are permissible.

VII. Fees - Tuition fees as per actual will be admissible.

VIII. Medical Insurance Premium - Actual as charged will be admissible.

IX. Cost of Air Passage - Air passage grant on actual basis from India to the nearest place to the educational institution and back to India, by economy class and shortest route in arrangements with the national carrier, shall be provided.

X. Local Travel - Second or Coach class railway fare from the port of disembarkation to the place of study and back and in case of far flung places not connected by rail, bus fare(s) from the place of residence to the nearest railway station, actual charge of crossing by ferry, air fare to the nearest rail-cum-air Station and/or II class railway fare by the shortest route to the port of embarkation and back will be permissible.
XI. All the awardees already undergoing studies abroad would also be eligible to receive the revised rates as approved in the scheme and its modified form with prospective effect.
XII. DOMESTIC TRAVEL FOR INTERVIEW - For attending interviews by the candidates at the place decided by the Government of India, the second class fare/ordinary class bus fare from the city of their place of residence to the city in which the interviews for selection have been decided by the Government of India shall be permissible.

XIII. TRAINING FOR SELECTED CANDIDATES - The finally selected candidates will be supported for getting Coaching for TOEFL/GRE/GMAT.
XIV. EARNINGS FROM RESEARCH/TEACHING ASSISTANCESHIP - The awardees are permitted to supplement their prescribed allowances by undertaking Research/Teaching Assistantship up to US Dollars 2400/- per annum and for awardees in United Kingdom, Pounds sterling 1560/- per annum. Where income earned is beyond these prescribed ceilings, the maintenance allowance under the scheme shall be correspondingly reduced by the Indian Missions abroad.
XV. PASSAGE GRANTS - For selected candidates, air passage to the destination abroad and back to India, will be provided by economy class and shortest route through arrangement with the national carrier. The prospective candidates may contact this Ministry for obtaining the application form for applying for the passage grant.

(b) The scheme of National Overseas Scholarship for ST Students is implemented by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs through the Ministry of External Affairs. There is no state wise allocation of funds under this Scheme. However, year-wise details of funds sanctioned and the number of candidates selected under the scheme the years 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 are as under:

Grants-in-aid released under the Scheme of National Overseas Scholarship for ST Candidates from 2013-14 to 2015-16

Rs. in lakh

Sl. No.	Year	Amount Released	No. of Selected candidates
1	2013-14	68.00	9
2	2014-15	99.13	Selection under process
3	2015-16	39.03	Selection under process

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